different funding pattern. Remaining RCCs are paid an amount of Rs. 75.00 lakhs annually. These RCCs extend treatment facilities and conduct research in the field of Cancer.

Creation of HIV/AIDS Vaccine Technology Department

488. SHRI NANDI YELLAIAH: Will the Minister of HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE be pleased to state :

(a) the details of research institutes and laboratories which are capable of doing research in finding a solution to combat AIDS virus which is fast spreading;

(b) whether any HIV/AIDS Vaccine Technology Department has been created, so far, or entrusted to any of the research institutes in the country; and

(c) if not, whether Government would take immediate action in creating such Department or entrusting it to any of the research institutes?

THE MINISTER OF HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE (SHRI SHATRUGHAN SINHA): (a) The various research institutes and laboratories which are capable of doing research in the field of HIV/AIDS are: National AIDS Research Institute (NARI), Pune, Tuberculosis Research Centre (TRC), Chennai, National Institute of Biologicals (NIB) NOIDA, National Institute of Virology (NIV), Pune, National Chemical Laboratory (NCL), Pune and National Institute of Epidemiology (NIE), Chennai. These Institutes are working on different aspects of HIV/AIDS such as prevention research, behavioural intervention research, epidemiological and operational research on HIV/AIDS and Sexually Transmitted Diseases (STDs).

(b) and (c) No. Sir, there is no separate HIV/AIDS Vaccine Technology Department. However, the Ministry of Health & Family Welfare and Indian Council of Medical Research has signed a Memorandum of Understanding in December, 2000 with the International AIDS Vaccine Initiative (IAVI), USA to promote and accelerate the efforts to develop an indigenous AIDS Vaccine that will address the strains of the HIV-I subtype C, predominant in India. National AIDS Research Institute (NARI), Pune; National Institute of Cholera ad Enteric Diseases (NICED), Kolkata; Tuberculosis Research Centre (TRC), Chennai and National Institute of Epidemiology (NIE), Chennai are involved with HIV/AIDS vaccine related research.